Advancement in the drug industry

650. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the drug industry has made considerable advancement under the umbrella provided by Patents Act, 1970 leading to self reliance, exports and lower prices in the market as compared to equivalent prices in Pakistan, USA, UK etc.;

(b) whether Government have made any independent study of sale prices of drugs manufactured by Indian companies and multi-national companies in India and if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have made any study on comparative sale prices of some drugs by the same multinational companies in USA/UK etc.; and

(d) whether Government would ensure that the momentum gathered by Indian drug companies is not hampered through India joining Paris Convention on Patents ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY) : (a) The Pharmaceutical Industry has registered a very impressive growth over the years and the growth rate on an average has been 10% per annum. In exports also, the performance has been very good and in the year 1988-89, export worth Rs. 468 crores was achieved.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) The Government will give all necessary policy support for the growth of this vital industry.

Setting up of autonomous board for Power generation

651. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: SMT. SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up an autonomous board for generation of power and its equitable distribution amongst the different regions of the country;

(b) if so, what is the nature of its set up and by when it is likely to come into existence; and

(c) what will be the relationship between the said autonomous board and the Electricity Boards of different States ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

तेल कम्पनियों के अधिकारियों पर किया गया खर्च

652. श्रीमती रमा बहिन : क्या पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इंडियन आयल कारपोरेशन, भारत पेट्रोलियम कारपोरेशन और हिन्दुस्तान पेट्रोलियम कारपोरेशन के अधिकारियों के दौरों पर दिसम्बर, 1989 से अब तक होटल किराये और टैक्सी भाड़ा प्रभारों सहित पृथक-पृथक रूप से कितनी धनराशि खर्च की गई है; और

(ख) गत तीन माह के दौरान तेल कम्पनियों के अधिकारियों द्वारा देश के भीतर और विदेशों में किये गए दौरों पर सरकार ने कितनी धनराशि खर्च की है ?

पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री (श्री एम०एस० गुरुपादस्वामी) : (क) इंडियन आयल कारपोरेशन, भारत पेट्रोलियम कारपोरेशन और हिन्दुस्तान पेट्रोलियम कारपोरेशन द्वारा दिसम्बर, 1989 से फ़रवरी, 1990 तक की अवधि के दौरान होटल के किरायों और टैक्सी भाड़े सहित अधिकारियों के दौरों पर खर्च की गई कम्पनीवार कुल राशि इस प्रकार है :-

(लाख रुपये)

1. इंडियन आयल कारपोरेशन	301.80
2. भारत पेट्रोलियम कार.	131.48
3. हिन्दुस्तान पेट्रोलियम कार.	71.03

(ख) भारत सरकार ने पिछले तीन महीनों के दौरान तेल कम्पनियों के अधिकारियों के देश में या विदेशों के दौरों पर कोई खर्च नहीं किया है। इस संबंध में तेल कंपनियों द्वारा खर्च राशि के संबंध में सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

World Bank assistance for power projects

653. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) how many power projects scheduled for commissioning during the Eighth Plan period may not be undertaken due to the reluctance of the World Bank to finance them;

(b) what is the capacity of each such power project; and

(c) what alternative steps are being taken to overcome such a situation ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) The World Bank has not expressed reluctance to finance ower projects in India.

(b) and (c) Questions do not arise.

Supply of gas through pipelines in Metropolitan cities

654. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:
SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to convert the metropolitan cities of Delhi and Bombay into "gas cities" by providing piped gas for heating, cooking and lighting ; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b) GAIL have submitted a proposal for supply of natural gas to domestic industrial and commercial users in the city of Bombay. This would require 1.5 MMCMD of gas and would eventually cover 6,26,000 domestic consumers, 4,500 commercial consumers and 146 industrial consumers. The proposal is presently under the consideration of Government.

GAIL are studying the feasibility of a similar project for Delhi.

Delay/cancellation of Indian Airlines flights

655. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI:
SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of India Airlines flights which maintained the time schedule during the last three months alongwith the flight number and destination;